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Bushi language

Kibosy (*Shibushi* or *Kibushi*) is a dialect of Malagasy spoken in the French-ruled Comorian island of Mayotte. Malagasy dialects most closely related to Bushi are spoken in northwestern Madagascar in the area of Antsiranana (Diego-Suarez) and Mahajanga (Majunga), which is also the closest point in Madagascar to Mayotte. Kibosy and Majunga together are considered one of the Malagasy languages by *Glottolog*.

Kibosy	
Shibushi, Kibushi	
bushi-majunga	
Native to	Mayotte
Native speakers	47,900 (2012)[1]
Language family	Austronesian ▪ Malayo-Polynesian ▪ East Barito ▪ Malagasy ▪ **Kibosy**
Writing system	Latin
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`buc`
Glottolog	`bush1250 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bush1250)`[2]

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Geographical distribution

Bushi is known as Kibushi on Mayotte and is spoken by 40% of the islands' people (1980). It is spoken alongside the Maore dialect (*Shimaore*) of Comorian, a Bantu language. Historically, Kibushi and Shimaore have been spoken in certain villages but Shimaore tends to be the *de facto* indigenous lingua franca in everyday life, because of the larger Shimaore-speaking population. Only Shimaore is represented on the local television news program by Réseau Outre-Mer 1re. Dialects of Bushi in Mayotte (known as *Shibushi* in Shimaore) include Kiantalaotse and Kibushi-Kimaore (*Shibushi-Shimaore* in Shimaore).

Bushi is spoken along the west coast of the main island (Grande-Terre) including the villages of Bambo Est, M'Boueni, Passy-Kéli, Mronabeja, Kani-Kéli, Chirongui, Poroani, Ouangani, Chiconi, Sohoa, M'Tsangamouji, Acoua, Mtsangadoua, Handrema.

Phonology

In Mayotte, Bushi was traditionally written with an informal French-based Latin orthography. On 22 February 2006, the *Conseil de la Culture, de l'Éducation et de l'Environnement de Mayotte* introduced an official alphabet that utilizes the basic Latin alphabet without c, j, q, and x and uses three extra letters: ƀ, ɗ, and ṅ.[3] Here, the letters used in the orthography are bolded, their IPA counterparts in brackets. On March 3, 2020, the Conseil départemental de Mayotte announced the adoption of official orthographies in both Latin and Arabic scripts for Kibushi. [4] [5]

Vowels

Bushi has 5 vowels.

	Front	Back
Close	**i** [i]	**u** [u]
Close-mid	**e** [e]	**o** [o]
Open	**a** [a]	

Consonants

Bushi has 20 consonants.

		Bilabial		Labiodental	Alveolar		Palatal	Velar	Glottal
		plain	implosive		plain	implosive			
Stop	voiceless	**p** [p]			**t** [t]			**k** [k]	
	voiced	**b** [b]	**ɓ** [ɓ]		**d** [d]	**ɗ** [ɗ]		**g** [g]	
Fricative	voiceless			**f** [f]	**s** [s]				**h** [h]
	voiced			**v** [v]	**z** [z]				
Nasal		**m** [m]			**n** [n]			**ñ** [ŋ]	
Approximant					**l** [l]		**y** [j]	**w** [w]	
Trill					**r** [r]				

See also

- Mayotte: Languages

Notes

1. "Bushi" (https://www.ethnologue.com/language/buc). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 2017-06-23.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Kibosy Kiantalaotsy–Majunga" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bush1250). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Alphabet du Kibushi (http://shime.free.fr/linguist_05.htm) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20110720225919/http://shime.free.fr/linguist_05.htm) July 20, 2011, at the Wayback Machine (in French)
4. https://cg976.fr/ressources/raa/2020/?file=bulletinofficiel_30032020
5. https://cg976.fr/ressources/dcp/?file=alphabets-langues-mahoraises

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This page was last edited on 8 June 2020, at 16:50 (UTC).

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